

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Data is mutually exchanged between a plurality of communication apparatuses even when requests from plural devices to a specific apparatus are presented simultaneously in a network such as the IEEE1394 system. A first command is sent from a first communication apparatus to a second communication apparatus which notifies the first apparatus that a specified state change will be executed by the second apparatus. When that state change is generated, the first apparatus is so notified and, in addition, each communication apparatus in the network is notified that the second communication apparatus is ready to accept the first command. Moreover, when instructing the second apparatus to notify the first communication apparatus that a first state change will be executed, if the second communication apparatus is waiting to notify another communication apparatus of a second state change, the second apparatus reserves notification of the first state change, and after the occurrence of the second state change, the reserved first state change is monitored, and when that first state change is generated, the first communication apparatus is so notified thereof.